

Since Eve was made of Adam’s bone, our Lord has made this world his own,

By standing nature on her head, and bringing life to what lay dead.

Not only nature needs to fear reversal—we must learn to hear

The small, still voice in which the Lord creates a new world with a word.

Babes set adrift lay down the laws; made king, they sing their deepest flaws;

The one the ox and ass recall becomes the ruler of us all.

We mortals share a bitter fate: our truths are partial, none create.

No one voice sings the truth, so we must seek truth in polyphony.

Likewise, each age reveals in time its own truth. We must make it rhyme

With all the good of times gone by, lest with our time our own truth die.

“New times make ancient good uncouth.” So come, live out tomorrow’s truth,

Live in tomorrow’s world today! LORD, let us live to show the way!

**Congregational Church of Westminster West, UCC**

October 24, 2021 · 22nd Sunday after Pentecost

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Prelude:** “Like You Used To” (Andrew Marlin)

\***Call to Worship**

​One: Sisters and brothers, we worship a Love born before there was light,

Love born of a woman, Love who came in human flesh to say:

**All: Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens,**

**and I will give you rest.**

One: ​Our brother Love who says:

​**All:  Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me;**

**for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.**

One: Our loving Judge who says:

**All: My yoke is easy, and my burden is light.**

\***Hymn:** *“*We walk by faith*”*

(Henry Alford/Samuel McFarland: “Dunlap’s Creek,” as in NCH 256)

We walk by faith, and not by sight;

No gracious words we hear

From one who spoke as none e’er spoke,

But we believe him near.

We may not touch his hands and side,

Nor follow where he trod,

Yet in his promise we rejoice,

And cry, “My Lord and God!”

Help then, O Lord, our unbelief,

And may our faith abound,

To call on you when you are near,

And seek where you are found:

That when our life of faith is done,

In realms of clearer light,

We may behold you as you are

In full and endless sight.

We walk by faith, and not by sight;

No gracious words we hear

From one who spoke as none e’er spoke,

But we believe him near.

**Litany of Confession** (Psalm 51)

One: Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.

**All: Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin.**

One: For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me. Against you, you alone, have I sinned, and done what is evil in your sight,

**All: So that you are justified in your sentence and blameless when you pass judgment.**

One: Indeed, I was born guilty, a sinner when my mother conceived me. You desire truth in our inward being; therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart.

**All: Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.**

One: Let me hear joy and gladness; let the bones that you have crushed rejoice. Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities.

**All: Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me.**

One: Do not cast me away from your presence, and do not take your holy spirit from me.

**All: Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and sustain in me a willing spirit.**

One: Then I will teach transgressors your ways, and sinners will return to you.

**All: Deliver me from bloodshed, O God, O God of my salvation, and my tongue will sing aloud of your deliverance.**

One: O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare your praise. For you have no delight in sacrifice; if I were to give a burnt offering, you would not be pleased.

**All: The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.**

**Assurance of Pardon** (Psalm 103: 8-12)

​One: The psalmist sings: “The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. He will not always accuse, nor will he keep his anger forever. He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities. For as the heavens are high above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far he removes our transgressions from us.”

**All: Thanks be to God! Amen.**

\***Gloria No. 756** (as a round)

Gloria, gloria in excelsis Deo!

Gloria, gloria, alleluia! Alleluia!

**Prayers of the People**

One May the Lord be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

One: Let us pray.

**Joys and Concerns**

**Silence…**

**Pastoral Prayer**

**The Lord’s Prayer**

Our Father/Mother/Creator, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And let us not fall into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

**Scripture Lessons**

1 Samuel 16: 1-13

​The LORD said to Samuel, “How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons.” Samuel said, “How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me.” And the LORD said, “Take a heifer with you, and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the LORD.' Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you.”  
  
Samuel did what the LORD commanded, and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, “Do you come peaceably?” He said, “Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the LORD; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice.” And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice. When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, “Surely the Lord's anointed is now before the LORD.” But the LORD said to Samuel, “Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the LORD does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks on the heart.”   
  
Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, “Neither has the LORD chosen this one.” Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, “Neither has the LORD chosen this one.” Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, “The LORD has not chosen any of these.” Samuel said to Jesse, “Are all your sons here?” And he said, “There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep.” And Samuel said to Jesse, “Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here.” He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The LORD said, “Rise and anoint him; for this is the one.” Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the LORD came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

John 7: 24

​Do not judge by appearances, but judge with right judgment.

\***Hymn:** “Since Eve was made of Adam’s bone” (Daniel Read: RUSSIA)



Since Eve was made of Adam’s bone, our Lord has made this world his own, by standing nature



on her he-ad, and bringing life to what lay dead, and bringing life to what lay dead.

Not only nature needs to fear

Reversal—we must learn to hear

The small, still voice in which the LORD

Creates a new world with a word. (*repeat*)

Babes set adrift lay down the laws;

Made king, they sing their deepest flaws;

The one the ox and ass recall

Becomes the ruler of us all. (*repeat*)

We mortals share a bitter fate:

Our truths are partial, none create.

No one voice sings the truth, so we

Must seek truth in polyphony. (*repeat*)

Likewise, each age reveals in time

Its own truth. We must make it rhyme

With all the good of times gone by,

Lest with our time our own truth die. (*repeat*)

“New times make ancient good uncouth.”

So come, live out tomorrow’s truth,

Live in tomorrow’s world today!

LORD, let us live to show the way! (*repeat*)

**Sermon:** “Come, Lord, make ancient good uncouth!”

**Offertory:**  „Ich dank’ dir schon durch deinen Sohn” (J.S. Bach)

\***Doxology:** Praise God from whom all blessings flow!

Praise God, all creatures here below.

Praise God for all that Love has done.

Creator, Christ and Spirit, One.

\***Prayer of Dedication**

\***Hymn**: “Holy! Holy! Holy!” (PH 251)

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God almighty!  
Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee.  
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty!  
God in Three Persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore Thee,  
Casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;  
Cherubim and seraphim falling down before Thee,  
Which wert, and art, and evermore shalt be.

Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide thee,  
Though the eye of sinful man thy glory may not see,  
Only thou art holy, there is none beside thee,  
Perfect in pow’r, in love, and purity.

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God almighty!  
All thy works shall praise thy name, in earth, and sky, and sea.  
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty!  
God Three Persons, blessed Trinity!

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\***Commissioning and Benediction**

**Postlude**: BWV 554 (J.S. Bach)

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**Worship Participants:**

Musician: Fred Gray · Preacher: Ray Huessy

Deacon: Sue Venman · Digital Deacon: Karen Blanchard · Trustees: Guy Payne, chair

Minister to the Congregation: Rev. Susie Webster-Toleno

Ministers to the World: The Congregation

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**Church and Community Notes**

Our pastor, Rev. Susie Webster-Toleno, welcomes visits and calls, and is also happy to visit YOU in your home, workplace, hospital room or wherever. In this post-Covid-Isolation world, as we all assess what was and was not working prior to the shut-down, she is still figuring out the best way to make herself available.

She sets Thursday afternoons aside for church work for sure, and is available at other times by appointment. Susie can be reached at the church at 387-2334 if it’s not an emergency, but the fastest ways to reach her are via cell 802-579-8356 or email susiewt@gmail.com. She reserves Mondays as her Sabbath day, holding that day aside as non-working time.

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**Upcoming Events:**

Oct. 31: Pia Rabin preaching · Fred Gray musician

Nov. 7: All Saints’ Sunday Susie preaching · Eric Robinson music

Nov. 11: Welcome Center Food Sale

(please volunteer your time or something to sell, if you can!)